

Amendments to the specification

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 10-11 with the following amended paragraph:

The single or multiple monolith segment device, after coating with a membrane, becomes a membrane element that must be configured with a means to separate filtrate from the MBR feed contents. For the honeycomb monolith membrane element structures, means of filtrate withdrawal have been disclosed in the patents of Goldsmith, cited above and included herein by reference. One means is withdrawal of filtrate from along the sides of the monolith membrane element into an enclosing housing. One simple means to accomplish this is to pot the membrane element into a housing. As shown in Figure 1, an individual filter element 12 with internal filtrate conduits is potted into a housing 10 with potting compound 13. The housing 10 includes a standoff ring 14 and a support ring 15 as shown. Another method of filtrate withdrawal is to extract filtrate from an end face of the membrane element. This can be accomplished, for example, with the segmented structures of Stobbe, et al., with the filtrate collection tubes of Goldsmith (USP 5,009,781), and to withdraw the filtrate from an end face of a multi-segment element. Such a structure is illustrated in Figure 2. In this example, "ring segments" 16 (eight shown) with their external surface sealed are assembled around a central cavity 17 for filtrate withdrawal. The

segments 16 are wrapped with an impermeable sleeve or otherwise sealed to hold the assembly together and to prevent filtrate from exiting at the lateral circumferential surface of the structure. The central cavity 17 is connected to a filtrate withdrawal tube (~~sealed~~ sealed in the cavity 17 but not shown), which need not run the length of the structure. The intersegment portion 18 and intrasegment portion 19 of the filtrate conduit are sealed at the end faces. The assembled segmented structure is appropriately sealed at the ends to prevent contamination of the filtrate by feed wastewater. The filtrate withdrawal tube can also serve as a mechanical support for the membrane element mounted vertically in a MBR waste treatment tank.